

7-11-1996

## MU NewsLetter, July 11, 1996

Office of University Relations

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### Recommended Citation

Office of University Relations, "MU NewsLetter, July 11, 1996" (1996). *MU NewsLetter 1987-1999*. Paper 286.  
[http://mds.marshall.edu/oldmu\\_newsletter/286](http://mds.marshall.edu/oldmu_newsletter/286)

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# Students to conduct life history interviews

What does it feel like to be unemployed or disabled? How do people on welfare perceive their situations? What types of help do people on welfare think they need to become self-sufficient?

These questions and others will be asked by a group of Marshall University students this summer when they conduct life history interviews with families served by the programs of the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) in West Virginia.

The results of the students' research will become part of the West Virginia Community Action Dialogue on Poverty, according to Dr. Lynda Ann Ewen, associate professor of sociology and director of Marshall's Oral History of Appalachia Project (OHAP).

Ewen said she believes the students volunteered to participate in the project in part because the goal is to take the information and use it to help people climb out of poverty and become self-sufficient.

"People are always putting young people down," said Ewen, "but in my experience, every time I have involved students in volunteer service I have received an overwhelming positive response."

## Marshall faculty and staff achievements

HARISH MAHLINGAM, a graduate student in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, was awarded a "Young Investigator Award" for a presentation of his work on control of melanin production at the national meeting of the Pan American Society of Pigment Cell Research held recently in Kansas City, Mo. He received a plaque and \$250.

MISTY TRENT, who will enter the M.D. program in the School of Medicine this fall, received a \$1,000 award from the West Virginia office of American Women in Science to support her summer research on breast cancer in the laboratory of Dr. MICHAEL MOORE, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology. KRISTY BLANKENSHIP, a graduate student working in MOORE's laboratory, also received a \$1,000 award to help finish her studies for the Ph.D. in biomedical sciences.

Dr. JOHN A. SINGLEY, associate professor in the Safety Technology Program, attended the joint national meeting of the American Industrial Hygiene Association and the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists held recently in Washington, D.C. SINGLEY is a professional member of both organizations. He participated in a conference symposium on Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF). He also was asked to re-

## Castellani gets funding from science foundation

Dr. Michael P. Castellani, associate professor of chemistry at Marshall University, has received funding in the amount of \$129,200 from the National Science Foundation for a grant proposal titled "Synthesis and Reactivity of Pentaphenylcyclopentadienyl Stabilized Paramagnetic Group VIB Complexes."

The proposed work includes the preparation of a series of compounds that will model known reaction intermediates and the study of the catalytic activity of a series of previously prepared chromium complexes.

Castellani said the grant provides funding for three years.

Interviews will maintain the anonymity of the families involved in order to encourage frank evaluations of the different OEO agencies. Families will be drawn from a list that insures a range of characteristics including variations of age, religion, years served by a program, geographic location, race and education.

A special training workshop will be held for the student volunteers Saturday, July 13, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Huntington YWCA. Dave Treharne, director of the West Virginia Community Action Director's Association, will discuss the background of the project. Ewen will provide instruction on interviewing techniques. Gina Kates, OHAP administrative assistant, will give the students tips on making transcriptions.

"Many people are surprised to hear that in West Virginia we have families on welfare where the adult has a college degree," said Treharne. "Unfortunate circumstances can happen to anybody. Our aim is to better understand how people cope with those circumstances and what we can do to help them."

To obtain further details about the project contact Ewen or Kates at Marshall University, 304-696-2797 or 304-696-6799.

view a text on EMF by the U.S. Department of Energy. The text will be a joint publication of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the U.S. Department of Energy. It is designed to inform the lay public of the concerns and uncertainties of exposure to EMF associated with the use of electric power.

Dr. JOHN N. VIELKIND, chair of the Department of Philosophy, attended the 30th annual Heidegger Conference held May 24-26 at the New England Conference Center at the University of New Hampshire. He was on the program as moderator for the first session.

DAVID N. BAILEY, director of continuing medical education at Marshall, conducted a site survey June 13 at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo for the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences' Office of Continuing Medical Education. The survey was conducted for the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education.

Dr. PROTIP GHOSH, professor in the Geology Department, and TERRY HAMRICK, a graduate student in the department, attended the 71st annual meeting of the West Virginia Academy of Science held April 20 at Concord College. HAMRICK presented a poster titled "A Geochemical Study of the Impact of Acid Mine Drainage on Sandlick Creek, Bruno, Logan County, West Virginia."

Several Marshall University faculty members participated in the Mathematical Association of America Ohio Section summer short course held June 3-5 on the MU campus. The course on actuarial mathematics was conducted by Dr. MATTHEW CARLTON, professor of mathematics. Attending the program were: KAY THOMPSON and LINDA HUNT from the Community and Technical College, and BRUCE EBANKS, DAVID CUSICK, JAMES MOLONEY, EVELYN PUPPLO-CODY, ALAN HORWITZ and ARIYADASA ALUTHGE from the Department of Mathematics. Representatives from 18 other universities and colleges from as far away as Puerto Rico attended the program. Marshall's College of Science and Community and Technical College provided financial support for the short course.

# MU NEWSLETTER

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS • HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25755 • July 11, 1996

## Lance West named Marshall athletic director

Lance A. West is Marshall University's new athletic director. Announcement of the appointment was made June 27 by MU President J. Wade Gilley. West assumed his new duties July 1.

West, 33, succeeds Lee Moon who resigned to become athletic director at the University of Wyoming.

A native of Pullman, Washington, West has been a member of the Marshall staff since April 1, 1995, serving as associate vice president for institutional advancement and director of athletic development—the university's principal athletic fundraiser.

"Although we considered going through a long, nationwide search, we decided we already had the appropriate person on our staff," Gilley said. "Lance has the background, personality and enthusiasm to be a highly successful athletic director. This promotion gives him an opportunity to demonstrate that and to realize his career goal. I'm looking forward to working with him in moving Marshall athletics to a new level of success."

## Office name is changed, Welty appointed to post

The name has been changed, but the mission remains the same: finding, developing and maintaining philanthropic resources for Marshall University.

Frank P. Justice Jr., Marshall vice president for development, said Marshall's Office of Institutional Advancement will now be the "Office of Development." He announced the change effective July 1.

"The name 'Institutional Advancement' was too broad," Justice said. "'Development' better describes our focus. We cultivate resources, seeking gifts from our alumni, friends, businesses, foundations, clubs and organizations."

As part of the name change and reorganization, Sue W. Welty was named assistant vice president-marketing for the Office of Development.

Welty joined the Marshall staff in October 1990 as director of development after serving 10 years in development and community relations at WPBY-TV in Huntington.

"Since Sue assumed responsibility for the annual fund program in the 1991-92 fiscal year, the number of donors has increased significantly and the financial support has nearly doubled," Justice said. "In 1991-92, we had 4,342 donors who gave a total of \$323,547. In 1994-95, the numbers rose to 6,706 donors and \$625,033."

"There also has been steady and dramatic growth in the percentage of individuals responding to the various components of the annual giving program," Justice said. "In 1991-92, only 4.5 percent responded. In 1994-95, the response rate grew to 14 percent."

West came to Marshall from Moscow, Idaho, where he was associate athletic director for external affairs at the University of Idaho.

A two-time All Big Sky Conference football lineman at Idaho, West earned two undergraduate degrees there in advertising/business management and public relations. He served as a graduate assistant football coach in 1985 and 1986, then became regional development director for Idaho athletics, covering the Boise area, in late 1986.

He returned to the main campus in Moscow, Idaho, in 1989 as assistant director of athletics for development and became associate director in December, 1994.

Gilley said West had been very successful as Marshall's athletic fundraiser over the last year. "Lance is a hard worker with a great amount of energy and a pleasant, outgoing personality," Gilley said. "He clearly has been preparing himself over the last 10 years and we recognized him as a prospective athletic director when he was first interviewed at Marshall in early 1995."

A graduate of Roosevelt High School in Seattle, Washington, West was a Dean's List student at Idaho.

(Continued on page 2)

## MU, four school systems develop credit programs

Marshall University President J. Wade Gilley and school administrators from Cabell, Mason, Putnam and Wayne counties have signed agreements that will provide new opportunities for high school students to take college courses.

The agreements stipulate that Marshall and the individual county school systems will work together and establish organizational structures to develop new credit opportunities for students.

Some qualified high school students have been taking Marshall introductory courses for a number of years, according to Dr. H. Keith Spears, dean of adult and extended education at the university. The most significant difference in the new agreements will be the times and places the classes are offered.

"In the past, high school students would have to take time off from high school to travel to Marshall, stay late and take the classes at their schools or come to the university campus in the evening, often having to make a choice of participating in extracurricular activities or taking the college credit courses," explained Spears.

Now the courses will be offered at the high schools during the regularly scheduled school day. "This will be a tremendous benefit for high school students planning to attend college," said

(Continued on page 2)



West



Welty

(Continued on page 2)





Marshall University President J. Wade Gilley and school administrators from Cabell, Mason, Putnam and Wayne counties sign agreements to provide new opportunities for high school seniors to take college courses. Pictured above are, left to right, Cabell County Superintendent Richard Jefferson, Putnam County Superintendent Sam Sentelle, Gilley, Wayne County Assistant Superintendent Gary Adkins, and Suzanne Dickens, school administrator in Mason County.

## New programs developed

(Continued from page 1)

Spears. "They will be able to accumulate several college credits by the time they graduate from high school."

Spears said the program also will benefit students who are unsure about attending college. "I heard about one student who was very apprehensive about whether he would be able to pass college-level classes. The student successfully took some of the college courses while still in high school. That student might not have gone to college if not for the classes he took in high school."

The courses will be taught by high school teachers, Marshall professors or adjunct faculty members. Some high school instructors already teach approved Marshall courses. Other qualified high school teachers who have the appropriate credentials will instruct courses after attending a special workshop designed to discuss new approaches and differences in teaching college-level courses.

A mentoring program will be established with Marshall faculty members who will work closely with the high school teachers. Marshall faculty will provide assistance in developing course syllabi, reviewing text material and things of that nature, Spears said. The teachers also will be involved in regular university departmental meetings and activities.

"What we are trying to do is simplify the whole process," said Marshall University President J. Wade Gilley. "Since we open classes to qualified high school students, we want to do it in a way that will be convenient for everyone involved. It just makes sense to offer the classes during the regular school day at the high schools so the students don't have to take time off, don't have to travel and don't have to give up extracurricular activities.

"I want to commend the county school superintendents and administrators," said Gilley. "They have exhibited a willingness and desire to go that extra mile to provide additional educational opportunities for their students. They deserve much credit for their work."

## Welty appointed to post

(Continued from page 1)

Welty, a native of Troy, Pa., received a B.Ed. degree in early childhood and elementary education from the University of Miami, Coral Gables, Fla., in 1977, and an M.Ed. degree in 1979 in college student personnel administration, also from the University of Miami.

She joined WPBY in 1979 as volunteer coordinator, a position she held until 1984 when she took over duties as special projects manager for the station. She became marketing director in April 1987.

As director of development in the Office of Institutional Advancement, Welty was responsible for the annual fund drive and the phone-a-thon and also assisted in capital and endowment fund drives.

In her new position, she will continue previous responsibilities and will have expanded duties in the areas of donor identification, cultivation and record maintenance.

Welty is president-elect of the West Virginia Chapter of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives, serves on the board of directors of the Tri-State Council of the Boy Scouts of America, is co-chair of the Raffle Committee for the annual Hilltop Festival at the Huntington Museum of Art and is a member of the Huntington Rotary.

## Former professor dies

Dr. George Edward Parker, 54, of Huntington, died Wednesday, June 26, in San Antonio, Texas.

He was born June 1, 1942 in Cabell County, a son of Alice Locey Parker Murdock of Chesapeake, Ohio, and the late Clarence Parker.

Parker received bachelor's and master's degrees in safety management from Marshall University and a Ph.D. from Century University.

He was president and chief executive officer of P&D Associates (a safety consulting firm) and on the faculty of Century University where he was past president of the Alumni Association. He formerly served on the graduate faculty in the Marshall University Safety Department. He also served as safety director for Ameriquist and federal jobs coordinator for the city of Huntington.

While at Marshall, Parker received an award from Phi Delta Kappa for founding and directing a safety program for children. He was a past president of the West Huntington Kiwanis and served for many years as a honorary chaplain for the Navy and as a volunteer for Hospice of Huntington.

Survivors include his wife, Linda Harold Parker; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Jeffery Edward and Heather Parker of Morgantown and Michael George Parker of Lexington, Ky.; a special aunt, Avis "Abby" Hensley of Huntington; a brother and sister-in-law, Clarence and Linda Kay Parker of Bancroft, and his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Don Harold of Barboursville.

## Athletic director named

(Continued from page 1)

He is a member of the Huntington Rotary Club, the chambers of commerce in Huntington and Charleston, the City Club and the Men's Association of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church. He has served as a "loaned executive" to the United Way of the River Cities.

West and his wife, Mary, are the parents of two children.

## New nursing program set

Marshall University will accept applications through July 31 for a new program that allows participants to earn a Master of Science in Nursing with an emphasis in nursing administration.

The program starts with the fall semester, which begins Aug. 26. The specialized part of the course work will be offered in Charleston. Core component courses will be offered at Marshall University, and elective courses may be taken at Marshall or transferred from accredited universities offering graduate courses.

Marshall developed the new program in response to requests from nurses and others in the community, said Dr. Giovanna Morton, associate dean of the School of Nursing. "The program will be individually tailored so that graduates will be prepared to assume broad-spectrum administrative positions in a variety of health care settings," she said.

Open to a limited number of qualified applicants, the 36-credit-hour program can be completed in one calendar year.

Marshall's Master of Science in Nursing program is accredited by the National League for Nursing. Depending on their experience and stage of professional development, graduates of the new program will be eligible to sit for one of two examinations of the American Nurses Credentialing Center: the Examination for Nursing Administration or Nursing Administration, Advanced.

All applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Marshall University Graduate School. More information can be obtained by calling the School of Nursing, 304-696-2636.

## Marvin E. Billups dies

Lt. Col. Marvin E. Billups of Charleston, retired director of personnel at Marshall University, died Thursday, July 4, at his home after a short illness. He was 72.

Billups also served as a military science instructor at West Virginia State College. He was a graduate of Tuskegee Institute with a master's degree in guidance and counseling.

A graduate of the Command General Staff College, he was a retired Army veteran of the Korean and Vietnam wars. He was a member of Sigma Pi Phi, past president of Omega Psi Phi and a 25-year member of the First Baptist Church where he served on the trustee board and was past treasurer.

He was on the executive boards of the NAACP and Mattie V. Lee Home and was a commander with the VFW Post 57. He was the owner of M&M Lounge.

Billups was past president of the Kanawha Valley Golf Club and served as the club's tournament director. He also was a volunteer at Tiskelwah Elementary School.

Surviving are his wife, Deborah Bradford Billups; daughters, Michelle Tucker of Columbus, Ohio, Jeannen Pridgeon of Atlanta, Ga., Marvine Lynn Taylor of New Orleans, La., Deanna Williams of Philadelphia, Pa.; foster daughter, Audrey Clark of Charleston; mother, Christine S. Billups of South Charleston; brother, Reginald D. of Fort Myers, Fla.; sister, Remitha B. Oden of Los Angeles, Calif., and 10 grandchildren.

## Newsletter deadline set

The Marshall University Newsletter will be published on a biweekly schedule during the university's summer terms.

Items for the Marshall University Newsletter must be submitted to the University Relations Office by 10 a.m. Tuesday in order to be published the following Thursday. Lengthy items should be submitted as early as possible to ensure publication.



Martha N. Blenko of Milton, left, receives the Marshall University College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Alumna Award for 1996 from Dr. Kathryn Chezik, chair of the Department of Communication Disorders.

## Blenko receives award from university's COLA

Marshall University's College of Liberal Arts has started a new program to annually recognize one of its graduates for his or her achievements, according to Dr. Joan Mead, dean of the college.

Martha N. Blenko of Milton has been selected as this year's College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Alumna.

Blenko is a speech-language pathologist, clinician III, at Cabell Huntington Hospital.

She received her bachelor's degree in speech pathology and audiology from Marshall in 1976 and received her master's degree from MU in 1977. She also has completed additional graduate studies at Marshall and the West Virginia Graduate College.

Blenko has worked at Cabell Huntington since 1991. She established and is chair of the Developmental Intervention Team in the hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

She previously served as a contract speech-language pathologist for area hospitals and a local rehabilitation center. She also worked as a speech-language pathologist for school systems in Cabell County, W.Va., and Boyd County, Ky.

Blenko is president of the West Virginia Speech-Language Hearing Association.

## OHAP gets \$1,500 grant

Cathy Abbott, chief executive officer of Columbia Gas Transmission of Charleston, has donated \$1,500 to Marshall University's Oral History of Appalachia Project (OHAP).

Dr. Lynda Ann Ewen, associate professor in Marshall's Sociology/Anthropology Department and OHAP director, said the oral history project recently expanded its program to include outreach through training and service.

Marshall has one of the largest oral history collections in the region. Transcripts cover a wide variety of subjects including the experiences of Vietnam veterans, local business history, working conditions in the coal mines of the 1930s, black history in Huntington, herbal medicines and many others.

The Oral History of Appalachia Project transcripts and tapes are housed in James E. Morrow Library.